



Press Release

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On: TEXAS APRIL 1 CITRUS FORECAST

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For Release: IMMEDIATELY (April 8, 2004)

AUSTIN . . . The April 1, 2004, Texas grapefruit production is forecast at 5.4 million boxes for the 2003-2004 season, down 4 percent from last year's 5.65 million boxes. This forecast is up 2 percent from January.

All orange production is estimated at 1.68 million boxes, up 7 percent from last year. The orange forecast is up 10 percent from January. Early and mid-season oranges account for 1.45 million boxes and Valencias for 230,000 boxes. The production of all oranges totaled 1.57 million boxes last season.

Harvest is nearly complete for early and mid-season oranges. Grapefruit harvest continues to show excellent size and quality.

United States grapefruit production is forecast at 50.9 million boxes, up 2 percent from last year. All orange production is forecast at 301.2 million boxes, up 13 percent from last year.